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JEOPARDY**

**WILL &
GRACE**

**BOY
BANDS**

**THE WB
NETWORK**

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MAD^{IND}®

Frederickson

SPECIAL "SUPERBOWL" ISSUE!

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UNITED STATES

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022

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MAD

NUMBER 390
FEBRUARY 2000



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HITS THE FAN**
by SIDNEY HARRIS



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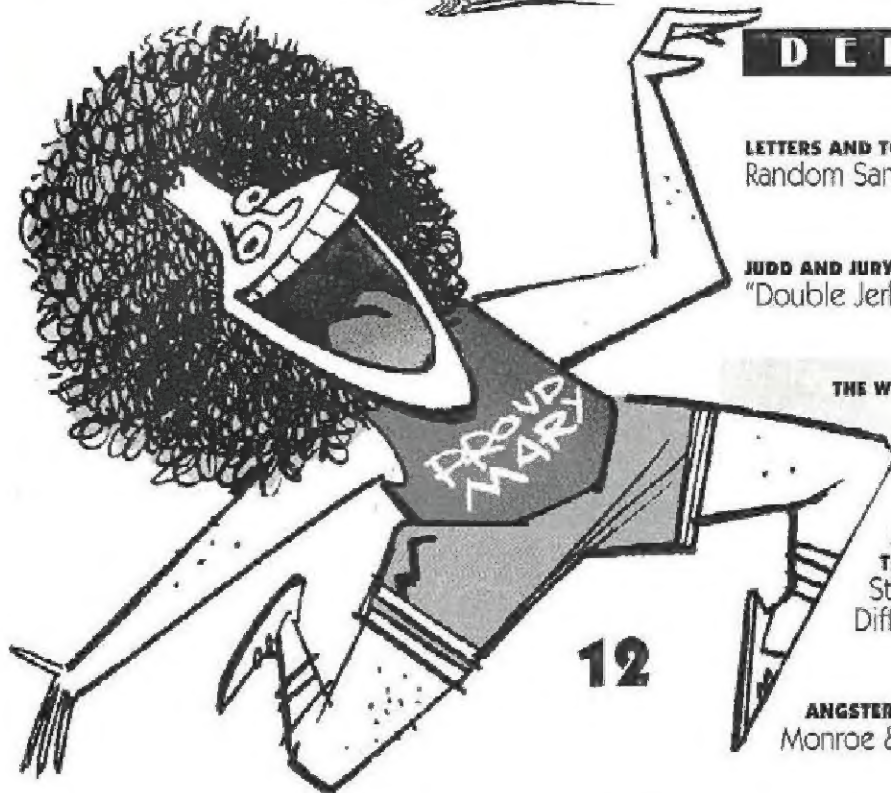
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...it will not
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liver a homily misstated the position
held at the Vatican by Archbishop
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A chart in Business Day on Monday
day showing the global efforts to part

The New York Times Best-Sellers

...is the phrase they use to describe the Harry Potter books,
not these all-new moronic titles from the Usual Gang of Idiots!

MAD

ABOUT THE
EIGHTIES

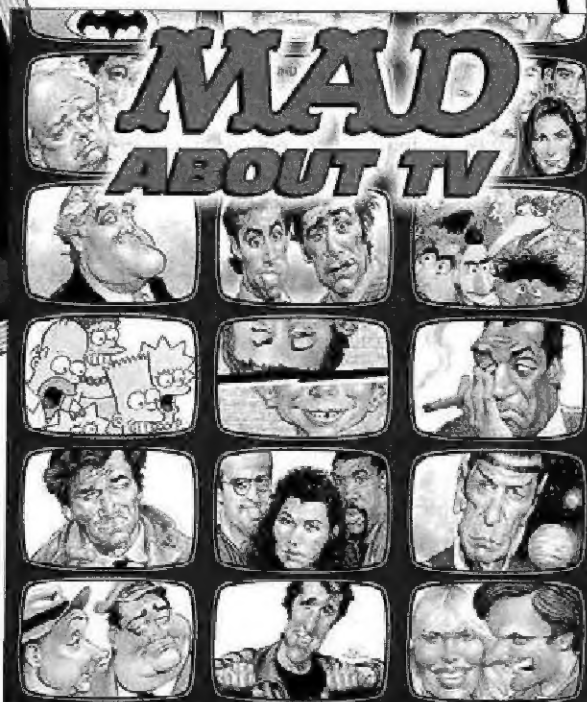


THE BEST
OF THE
DECADE

BY "THE
USUAL GANG
OF IDIOTS"

A MAD look back at the decade
that gave us such notable disasters
as the Exxon Valdez spill,
Ronald Reagan's Presidency
and Michael Jackson's nose!

From Star Trek to The
Simpsons, over 40 spoofs
of the worst of television!
It's the perfect gift for the
couch potato in your life!



By "The Usual Gang of Idiots"
Introduction by "Weird Al" Yankovic

On sale now, wherever the Harry Potter books are sold!

Minister and Others Slain in Armenian C...



48



47



1957
IRS Disallows Beppo the
Circus Clown's \$20,000
Seltzer Bottle Deduction

1979
Future Supreme
Court Justice
Clarence Thomas
Rents His First
Porno Movie

1982
The Flammable Gourmet's
Cooking With Turpentine
Hits Bookstores

1982
Smoke Inhalation Overcomes
35 at The Flammable
Gourmet's Book Signing

| THIS MONTH IN HISTORY | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|------|-----|-------|-----|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| FEBRUARY | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THURS | FRI | SAT | | | | | | | |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | | | | | |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | | | | | | | |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | | | | | | | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | | | | | | | |
| 27 | 28 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

1954
Ping Pong
Outlawed in Utah

1982
The Flammable
Gourmet Becomes
Spokesman for
First Alert

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"Drawn Out Dramas".....Various Places
by Sergio Aragones Around the Magazine

FRONT COVER ARTIST: MARK FREDRICKSON
FRONT COVER WRITER: PETER KLUPER

Whoever said
"Talk is cheap"
never dialed a
1-900 number!





STATUES OF LIMITATIONS

The Warner Bros. Studio Store on scenic Staten Island, NY (conveniently located opposite the Fresh Kills landfill — the largest garbage dump in the world!) was the setting



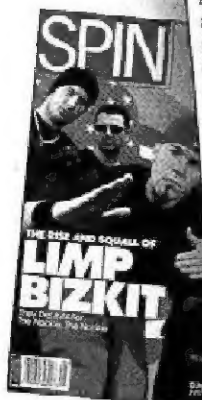
for the unveiling of two new limited edition MAD products: An Alfred E. Neuman statue, looking curiously like Humphrey Bogart in *Casablanca*, and matching Spy Vs. Spy statues! On hand to welcome and sign autographs for several hundred MAD fans who sadly had nothing better to do on a Thursday night (*Friends* was still in reruns) were MAD co-editors Nick Meglin and John Ficarra, MAD art director Sam Viviano and Spy Vs. Spy sculptor Tony Cipriano. The statues are exclusive to Warner Bros. Studio Stores around the country, so hurry and get yours now before they end up in the Fresh Kills landfill!

WELCOME
MAD MEN



GOOFFELLAS:
Cipriano,
Ficarra,
Meglin,
Viviano

THE ANSWER MAD



Frankly, I am disappointed. Do you know what is bothering me? Narcissistic punkcracker critics who constantly put down any band/group/singer that have anything to do with pop music. I personally adore punk music; my favorite band is Rancid. But, do you know what? My second favorite band is 'N Sync! I have reached an impasse on my journey to defend 'N Sync, and groups like them, simply because no one will listen to my logic. Do you ever stop to listen to 'N Sync? Or do you automatically laugh them off? Do you realize they actually have talent? You need to stop judging 'N Sync by their screaming fans (who, most of the time, only worship 'N Sync for their bodies and bleached hair) and start judging them by their actual musical ability, like their true fans do. Just because they happen to have synchronized dance moves does not mean that they aren't good. If 'N Sync, B*Witched, etc. are really that bad, people wouldn't buy their albums, just the posters, so they could look at them. Think about that.

L.S., Annapolis, MD

In yet another installment of our much beloved feature answering letters of other magazines, we give you this pearl from *Spin* magazine's August 1999 issue.

L.S. — Ooo, good argument. Americans are well known for not buying crap! It's their insatiable passionate yearning for high quality that's led to the success of: Broadway's *Miss Saigon*, Jenna Elfman, *The Waterboy*, MAD on CD-Rom, MAD on T.V., MAD Magazine, T.G.I. Friday's, *Chicken Soup For The Soul*, *Family Circus* (excluding ones that Billy draws), Sinbad, AOL, Pokémon, Hanson, Richard Simmons' Deal-A-Meal, Richard Simmons' *Sweatin' To The Oldies* and the *Hard Rock Cafe*! —Ed.

HOW TO REACH US
Please Address Correspondence To: MAD, Dept. 390, 1700 Broadway, New York, New York 10019. MAD welcomes reader submissions. Manuscripts will not be returned or acknowledged, however, unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope! MAD doesn't read faxed submissions!

THE MEASURE OF AMANDA

I just love your magazine! So does my dad! I'm 10 years old and I'll be turning 11 the 25th of October. As a faithful reader I buy MAD Magazine as much as I can. Since I love your magazine and I try to buy every issue, I was wondering if you would give me a subscription to your wonderful magazine. Thank you for bringing so much laughter into my life!

Amanda Patton, Indianapolis, IN

Mandy — It's rare that we receive a letter so heartwarming and uplifting as yours. We are enormously grateful and happy that you enjoy reading MAD and we hope you will continue to do so in the future. We were also delighted to learn of your birthday and hope that you had the most special of special days. We only wish we could have been there. As for your request for the free subscription to help celebrate your birthday — no way! —Ed.

Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™

This letter is written for your consideration for the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation*™. I used to live at Britannia House in Douglas. Last year I moved from room 24 to room 23. Shortly after I moved into room 23 I discovered I had a neighbor living in the hotel opposite who brightened my life during the time she lived there. She had a habit of standing in front of the window in her underwear. I never knew her name or even who she was but she had an effect on me. Naturally I missed her when she moved out before Christmas. I'm not trying to trace her. I daresay if she read this letter it would put her off me anyway. It's just that if somebody brings a bit of happiness into your heart, why not let it be known? You've guessed it, I'm a sad loser, but this is *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation*™.

Ian Ellis, Great Britain

Ian you freakin' bloody English perv — Thanks for your letter, BUT WHAT'S YOUR BLOODY WISH? HERE'S THE DEAL — WHEN YOU WRITE TO THE *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation*™ YOU GOTTA HAVE A DUMB WISH! WE READ YOUR LETTER 12 BLOODY TIMES AND WE COULDN'T FIND A BLOODY WISH! HERE'S OUR WISH, AND IT'S NOT EVEN DUMB! WE WISH THAT WHEN YOU AND OTHER NIMRODS WRITE YOU'D INCLUDE A WISH! Cheerio and God Save The Queen! —The Ed. of Wales.

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THE ED'S NIFTY FIFTY

In order to celebrate the new millennium, we have created the *Ed's Nifty Fifty™* Celebrity Snaps wish list for the year 2000! If we print your photo of any of the following celebrities holding an issue of MAD, you will receive a three-year subscription and a special secret prize! (Photos cannot be returned.) And now, without further ado, here's the *Ed's Nifty Fifty™*.

The Pope, Ricky Martin, any babe from Friends, Kobe Bryant, C-Span talking head Brian Lamb (still),

Senator Jesse Helms, Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling, Bill Gates, Dr. Jack Kevorkian, Bryant Gumbel, Hillary or Chelsea Clinton, Fred Durst of Limp Bizkit, any cast member of Dawson's Creek, Oprah, John Malkovich, Pete Rose, James Brown, tennis babe Anna Kournikova, J.D. Salinger, Ron Popell, any Beatle (living), Harrison Ford, Alan Alda, David Letterman, Zac Hanson,

Monica Lewinsky, Linda Tripp, Siegfried and/or Roy, John McLaughlin, the kid from The Sixth Sense, Neil Armstrong, any member of The Supreme Court (in their robe), Michael Jordan, Barbra Streisand, Spike Lee, Woody Allen or Soon-Yi, Deepak Chopra, Jerry Lewis, Gary Larson, Kerri Strug, Lisa Marie Presley, any Nobel Prize winner of the last 10 years, Ivana Trump, Michael Buffer, Brandi Chastain (bonus points for no top on), James Carville and Mary Matalin and Maya Angelou!

MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS

Earlier this year, I got a chance to meet our one and only Jerry Springer. He is in the issue he is holding ("MAD Celebrity Cause-of-Death Betting Odds" issue #372). I hope this qualifies me for a three-year-subscription. Sorry it looks like I am sleeping in the picture.

Judy Sang, New York, NY

For sending us the picture of her sleeping with Jerry Springer and an Envelope of the Month, the lovely Judy Sang of New York, NY hits the daily double of the Letters and Tomatoes Dept.! Oo wee, it doesn't get any better than this! Congratulations on your three-year subscription for your Celebrity Snap!



MAD

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10019

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**Contributing Artists
And Writers**
the usual gang of idiots

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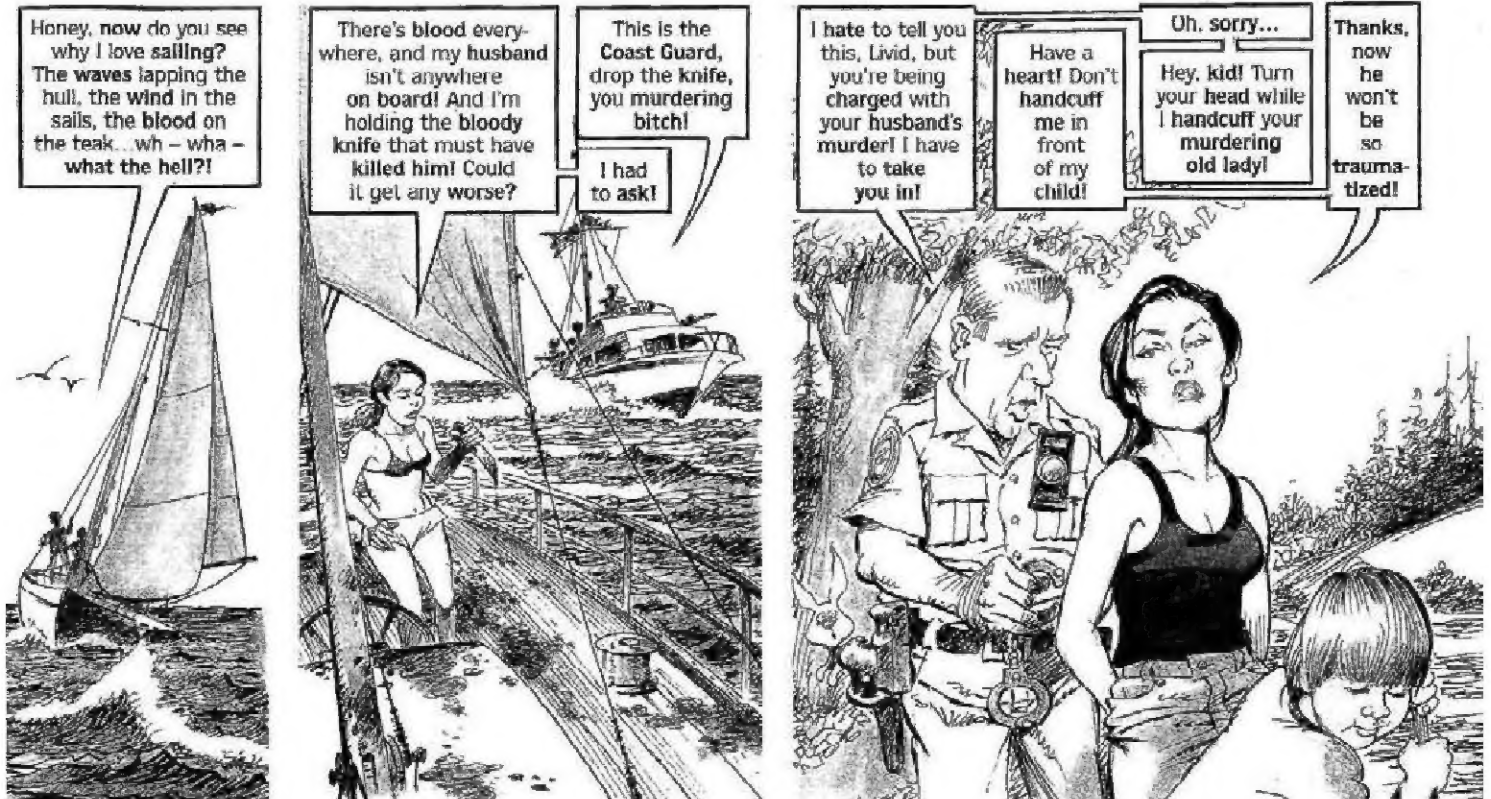
The Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States declares "No person (shall) be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb..." Hopefully, that means the people at Paramount won't write, produce, distribute, and make us suffer through another turkey as bad as...

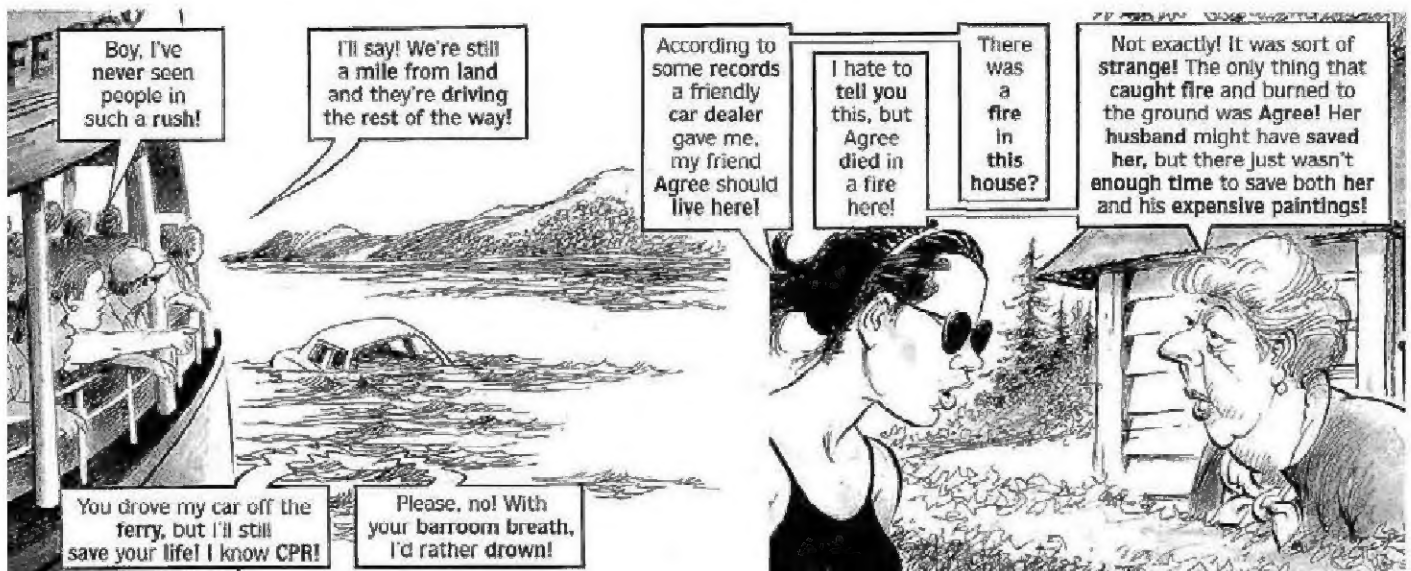
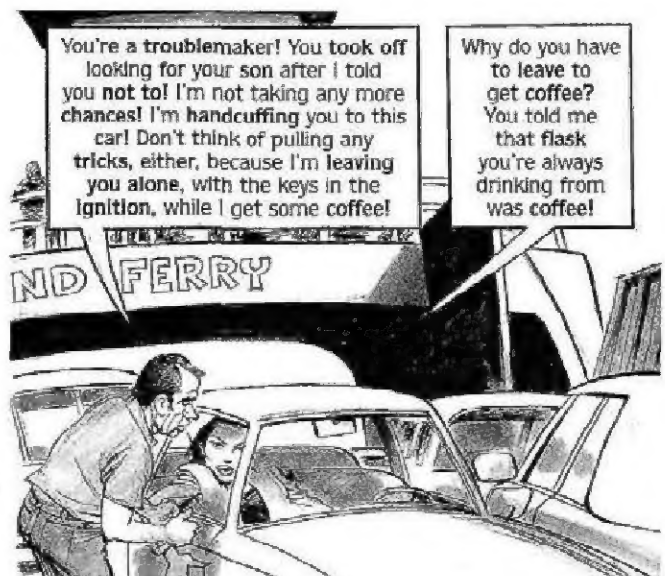
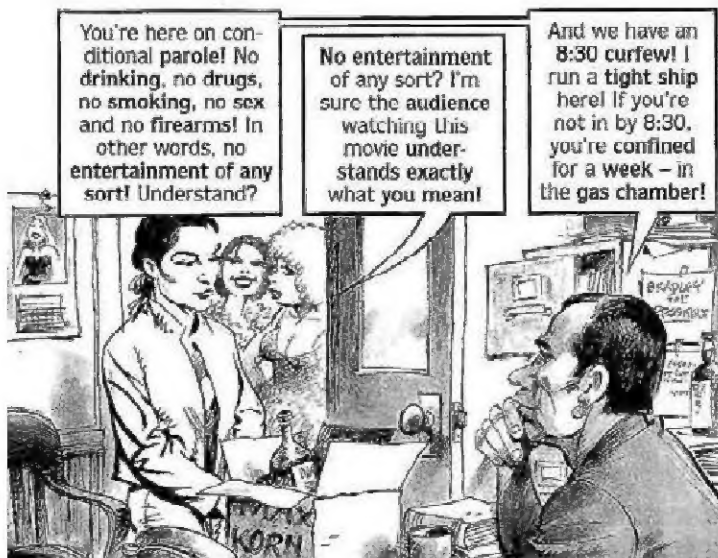
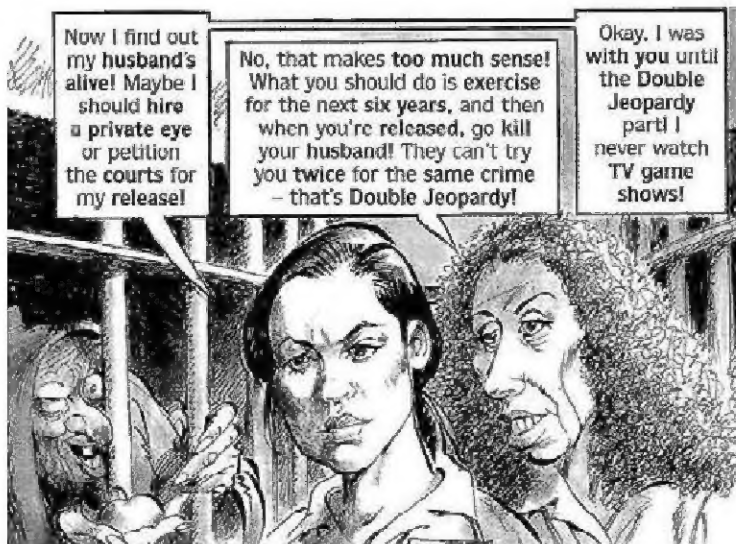


DOUBLE JERKERY

ARTIST: MORT DRUCKER

WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO







I tracked down your paintings and they led me to you! And all the time, I was ducking the police!

Why didn't you just tell the police that I'm alive? They would've arrested me, freed you, and given Motley back!

Because I'm determined, not smart! You can keep your wealth, all I want is Motley!

Wow, "not smart" is an understatement! No money, just the bratty kid! Meet me at the cemetery and you can have him! You won't believe how rotten he's become with no mother to teach him right from wrong! It's all your fault!

Are-are y-y-you my son?

No, I'm Cole Sear from *The Sixth Sense*! I spend all my free time in cemeteries, because I see dead people!

Where am I? Let's see... I met Slick at the cemetery! He must have knocked me unconscious, and put me in a coffin to die! But if I'm going to die, a coffin is a good place to do it! You know, even with all Slick's faults, he is thoughtful sometimes!

Party's over! For a dead man, you seem pretty lively, Slick!

Ha! My name is no longer Slick, so you can't hold me!

You can change your name, but I've got a copy of your fingerprints!

I also changed my fingerprints! When you're rich, anything's possible!

Damn! We have nothing to hold him with, Livia!

No, I've got something that'll hold him! A couple of bullets in vital places!

Yep, that'll do the trick!

Yay! We're one big, happy family again... um, where's daddy?

You know how I say you should never lie?

Yes!

Well, for a long time your daddy lied! He made people think he was dead!

That's terrible!

Good news! Your daddy just became an honest man...and I pulled the trigger!

Sorry, Livia! Re-killing your husband was fine, but you're going back to jail for driving cars off the ferry, credit card fraud and wrecking school property!

B-b-but who'll take care of my son?

Motley, say hello to your new dad! Whaddya say we go down to the bar and knock back a few to celebrate!



THE WOODSTOCK DEGENERATION DEPT.



nce upon a time, they truly believed "All you need is love." But yesterday's hippies are today's senior citizens with failing eyesight, arthritic knees and all the aches and pains that come with living too long. Sure, they need love, but what they need even more are these...



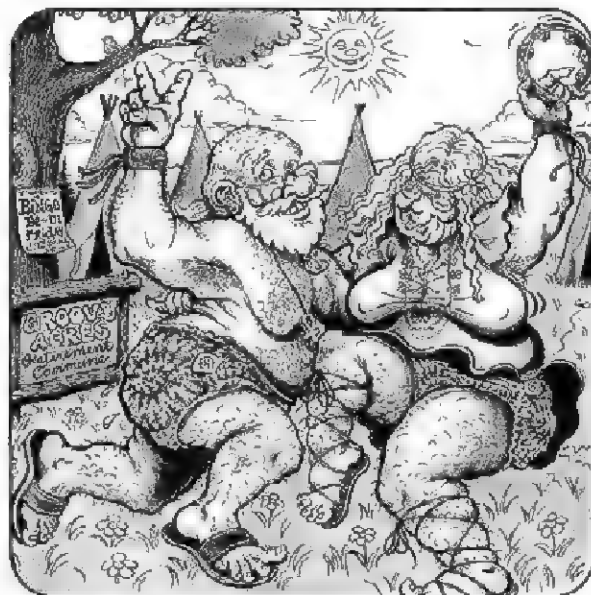
Steal This Book (Large Print Edition)

A myopia-friendly, giant-type version of Abbie Hoffman's yipple classic. In this revised edition, however, the phrase "Off the Pig!" is the title of the chapter that teaches your parents to cut their serum cholesterol level by eliminating pork from their diets.

Also available in a special hard-of-hearing audio edition as shouted by The Who's Pete Townshend.

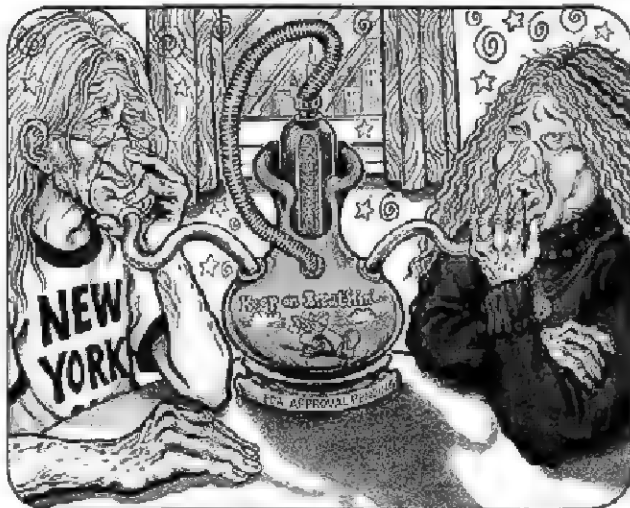


PRODUCTS AGING



Tie-Dyed Adult Diapers

All we are saying is give pee a chance! These groovy, rainbow-colored diapers let the old folks say, "My love for the sixties is still strong even if my bladder isn't." Tune in, turn on, drop a load!



The Bong-matic 2000 Respiratory System

Have a toke and a smile! After years of wheezing through their marijuana-ravaged lungs, mom and dad can now actually enjoy their breathing disorders. Funky, yet fully functional, this alternative breathing apparatus is handsomely decorated with art by legendary underground cartoonist, R. Crumb.



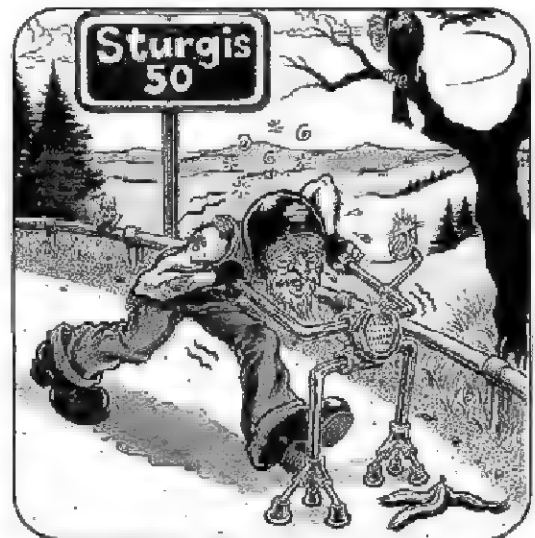
Adjustable Waterbed

Now YOU can give your parents all the orthopedic benefits of an adjustable hospital bed with all the kinky possibilities of an authentic waterbed. Even if they're too old and sick to actually have sex, this unique bed will transport them back to their wild days (and nights) of endless free love.

FOR YOUR HIPPIE PARENTS

Combination Nose-Hair Trimmer/ Roach Clip

At last the old folks can take up while they spruce up! This one-of-a-kind device is perfect for taking that last precious hit off of a fatty while clipping away those last unsightly nose and ear hairs. It's the ultimate in personal high-gienel



"Easy Rider" Walker

Whether they're going cross-country to see America or cross-town to see their chiroprapist, here's the perfect ambulatory accessory for your favorite broken hipped Hell's Angel! Comes complete with authentic Harley-style handlebars and helmet. 8-track player optional.



Stairmaster to Heaven

Finally, an exercise machine that combines the head-banging sound of heavy metal with the heart-pounding benefit of a heavy workout. The old folks will love climbing the stairs to the classic Led Zeppelin tunes that climbed the charts! With a top speed of 5 mph and a hearing-impaired-friendly top volume of 35,000 decibels, ma and pa may still die of a heart attack but we guarantee they'll go with A Whole Lotta Love!



Orthopedic Go-Go Boots

Believe it or not, during the Summer Of Love your mom used to "really get down" on the dance floor. As sure as her arches have fallen, her spirits will be lifted when she slips on a pair of these ultra-hip, podiatrist-approved Go-Go Boots. Available in Nancy Sinatra white vinyl and Mama Cass extra wide.



Same magazine, different issue. Same writer, different artist. Same premise, different examples. Here's...

STILL MORE SAME WORDS...

I DID NOT HAVE SEX WITH THAT WOMAN!



...hard to believe when Bill Clinton says it.

...a much easier sell when Richard Simmons says it!

THAT #*\$%&@



...shocking racist comment when heard on the news.

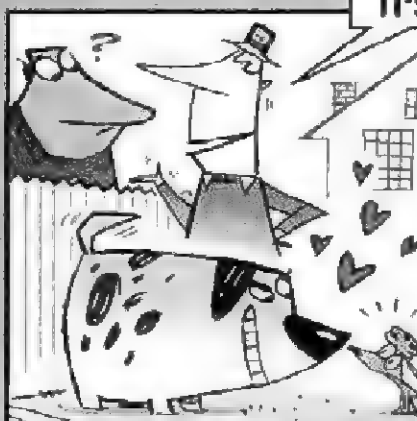
\$1.25 A GALLON!



...pretty good deal at the gas pump.

...very bad deal at the sperm bank!

IT'S



...welcome news when it's about a neighbor's randy dog.

IT HASN'T STOPPED GOING UP FOR THREE WEEKS!



...good news if you're in the stock market.

...painful news if you're on Viagra!

SAY



...photographer, sure.



DIFFERENT CIRCUMSTANCES!

NIGGER IS CRAZY!



...bilarious punch line when heard on an HBO comedy special!

THE CRACK WAS RIGHT OUT IN PLAIN VIEW!



...somewhat expected when a cop recounts a drug bust.

...completely expected when a wife recounts a repairman's visit!

FIXED!



...not so welcome news when it's about the latest Don King fight!

HELLO, MY NAME IS PHIL AND I'M AN ALCOHOLIC!



...preferred way to kick off an AA meeting.

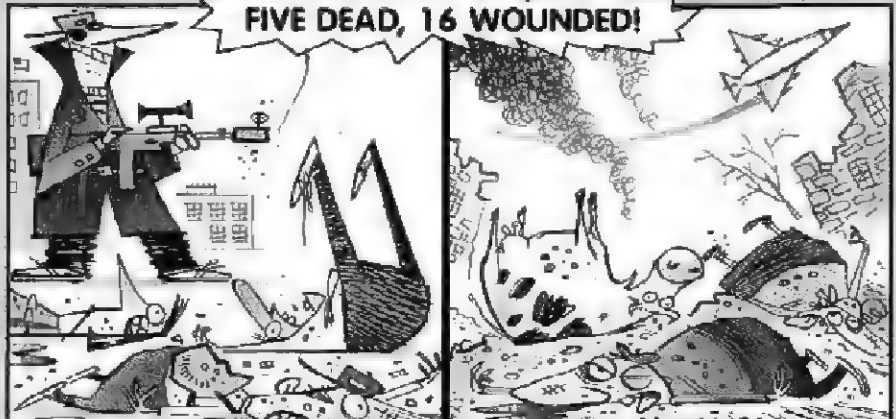
...less than choice way to begin a toast at a wedding!

CHEESE!



...proctologist, questionable!

FIVE DEAD, 16 WOUNDED!



... "A national tragedy" when it's the death toll at a school shooting.

... "minimal collateral damage" when it's the death toll from the latest NATO bombing mission!



Montre and...



HEY, DAD!
I WAS JUST
WATCHING F.U. ON
THE ILLEGAL CABLE
BOX, AND GUESS
WHAT...?



HEY, WALTER,
YOU'RE LIKE, A "BOOK
GEEK GUY". ARE YOU
GONNA GO TO COLLEGE
AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?

YOU
BET I AM!
I'M GOING TO
WELLSLEY!

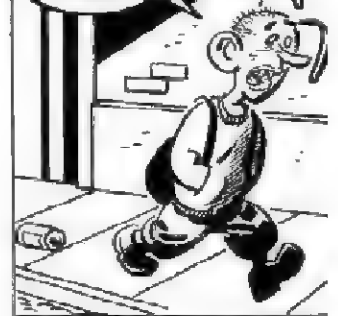


UM, ISN'T
THAT AN
ALL GIRLS
SCHOOL?

YEP! I'M GONNA
BREAK DOWN THE
GENDER WALLS!



OKAY,
WHATEVER.
LISTEN, WHAT'S
THE BEST WAY TO
GET INTO SCHOOL
WHEN YOU DON'T
HAVE ANY
MONEY?



NO, LIKE
LATIN CLUB OR
THE SCHOOL
PAPER --

SWEET!
GOT IT!
THANKS!



-- BUT IT
TAKES A LOT OF
TIME, ENERGY, HARD
WORK AND...



HI! I
WANT TO
SIGN UP FOR
THE SCHOOL
PAPER!



THE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

ARTIST: BILL WRAY

WRITER: ANTHONY BARRIERI

Ex-tree! Ex-tree!
Read all about
it!!! Hot off the
presses, our little
hero learns all
about extra-
curricular fun!

WELL, YEAH,
BUT THAT'S NOT
WHAT I'M TALKIN' ABOUT!
I'VE DECIDED I
WANNA GO TO
COLLEGE!



COLLEGE?! HA!

I GOT FIFTY BUCKS
SAYS YOU WON'T SURVIVE
YOUR SOPHOMORE YEAR
OF HIGH SCHOOL! BESIDES,
THE WAY YOUR MOM'S
BLEEDING ME DRY, I COULDN'T
AFFORD TO SEND YOU
TO DOG TRAINING
SCHOOL.



WELL, I'M
NOT GONNA LET
ANYTHING STOP ME!
I'M GOING SOMEWHERE
COOL -- LIKE
"FUN UNIVERSITY!"

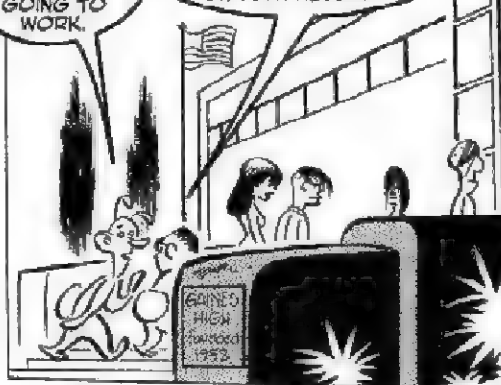


YOU EITHER
HAVE TO GET
GOOD GRADES
OR BE A STAR LIKE
JAMES VAN DER
BEEK IN "VARSITY
BLUES!"



OKAY,
THOSE CHOICES
AREN'T
GOING TO
WORK.

WELL, IT NEVER
HURTS TO HAVE A BUNCH
OF EXTRA-CURRICULARS
ON YOUR RECORD!



YOU MEAN LIKE
"SHOPLIFTING?"



YOU HAVE
TO SEE THE
EDITOR, JOSH
ZARKIN.



OKAY,
WHERE'S
HE?



YOU'RE LOOKING
AT HIM! SO, YOU
HAVE ANY NEWSPAPER
EXPERIENCE?



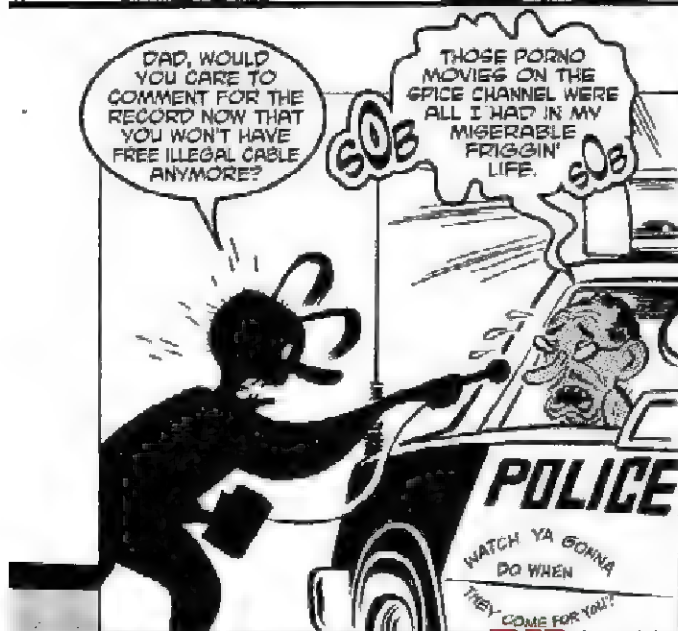
I
DELIVERED
BRIT ONE
SUMMER!



GOOD
ENOUGH!
WELCOME
ABOARD!









THE TRITE STUFF DEPT.

Lately it seems you can't turn on the news without hearing some horrible story about a building being bombed, a postal worker going "postal," a group of students shooting up a school. And every time there's a bloody rampage, we try and make sense of it all. Well, some people have succeeded! They've made sense of it — for them. And perhaps there is something we can learn from their wisdom. That something is "Move to Iceland!" But before you go, find out ...

HOW VARIOUS PEOPLE

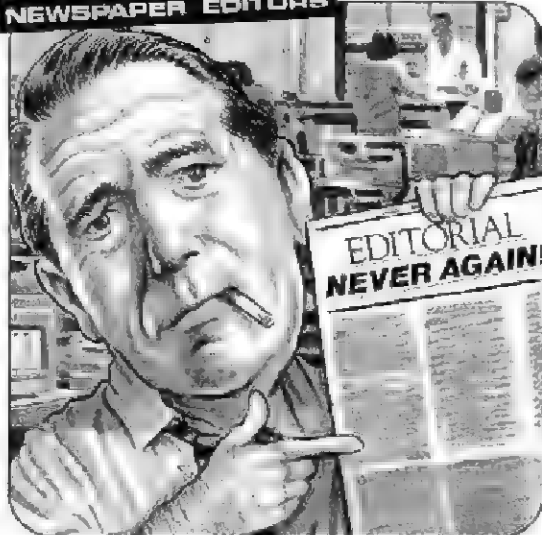
TELEVISION ANCHORS



Before asking the parents of a daughter whose face was shot off, "How did it feel to identify your only child at the morgue?" anchors will consult with a TV psychologist to see how asking them how they feel about their feelings will make them feel.

WILL REACT TO

NEWSPAPER EDITORS



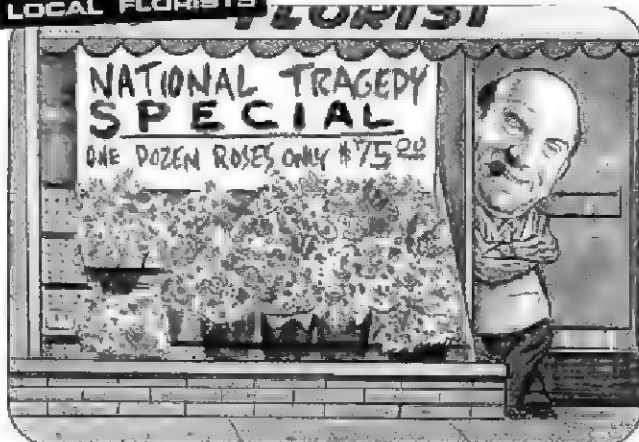
Will immediately publish their "We must take steps to prevent another tragedy like this from ever happening again" editorials again.

HIGH SCHOOL JOCKS



In an effort to improve strained relations with the nerdy sullen outcasts, will try not to use the toilets before shoving the geeks' heads inside and flushing.

LOCAL FLORISTS



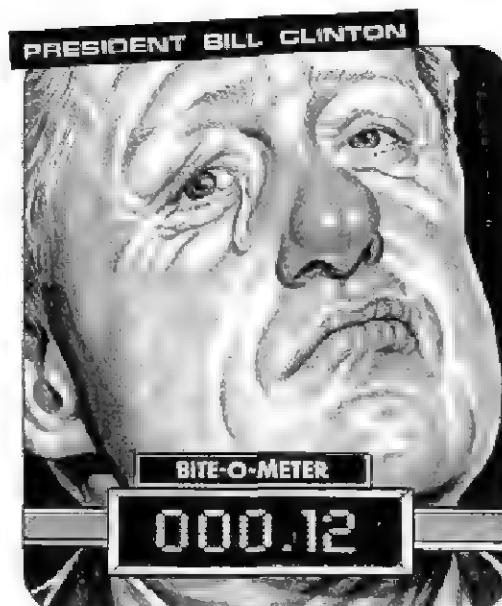
Will voluntarily agree to not greedily jack up prices 400% just because everyone within 150 miles feels compelled to buy a bouquet of flowers to leave on the sidewalk somewhere. (They'll only jack them up 200%.)

VIDEO GAME DESIGNERS





Will show that it is possible to mix comedy and tragedy by releasing the moving tribute ballad, "Pretty Fly for a Dead Guy."

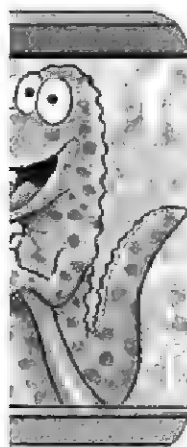


To show that he remains a dynamic problem-solver, will personally counter the threat that gun violence poses to America's children by symbolically biting his lip once for each victim.



Because our Constitutional framers clearly intended for 400-round Uzi assault weapons to be readily available to any eight-year-old, they cannot agree to any plan that might slow gun sales. But as a conciliatory gesture, they will put little "Warning: Shooting Someone Through the Head May Be Hazardous to Their Health" stickers on all shoulder holsters.

THE NEXT RANDOM ACT

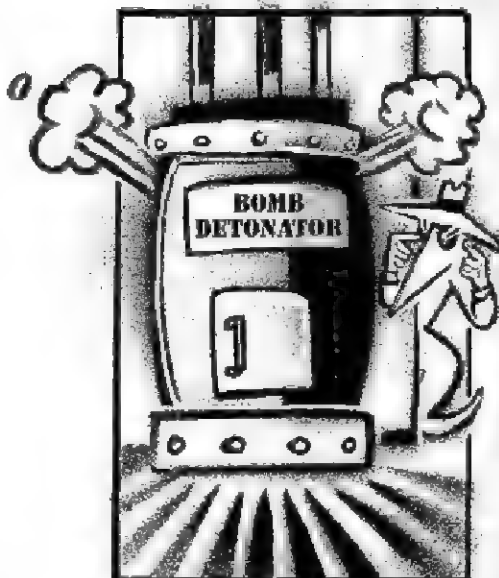
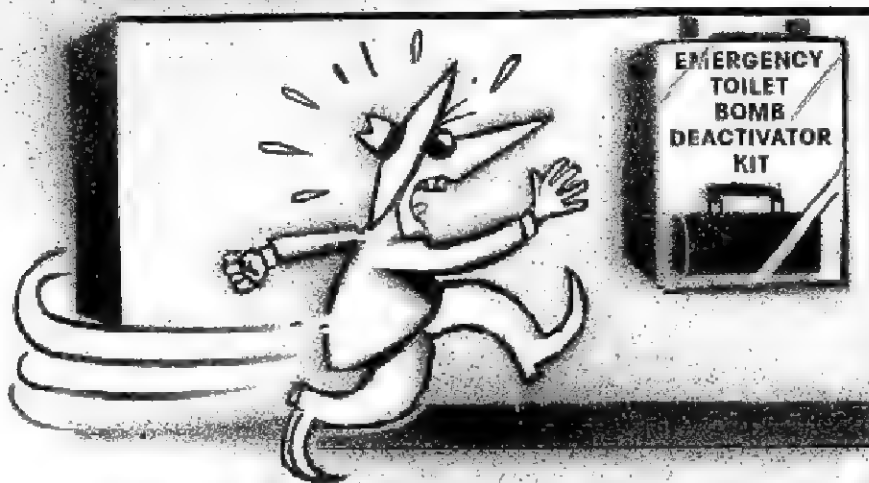


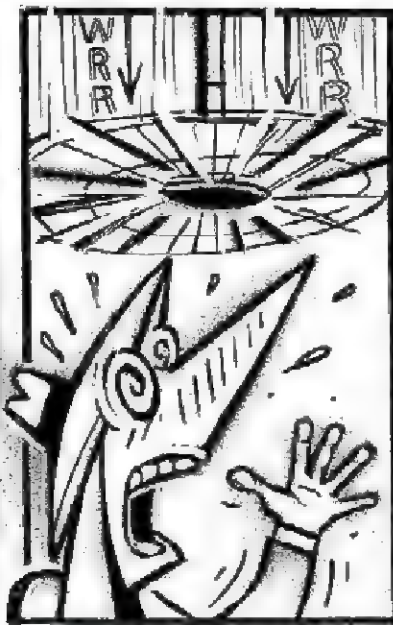
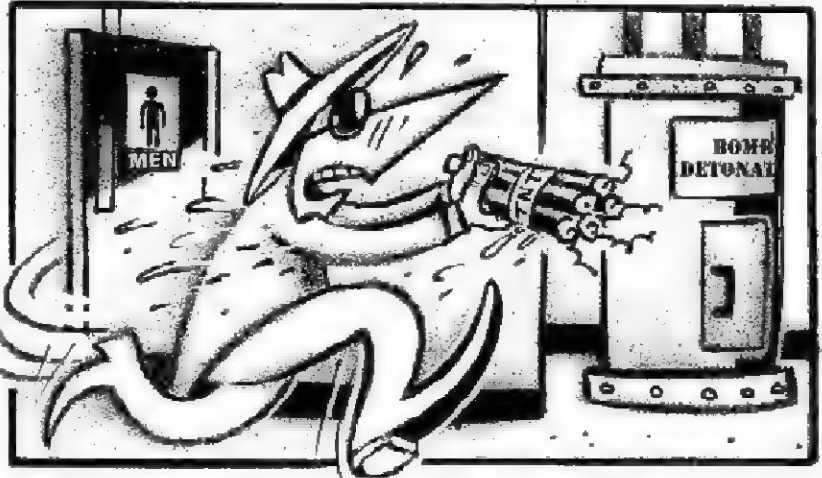
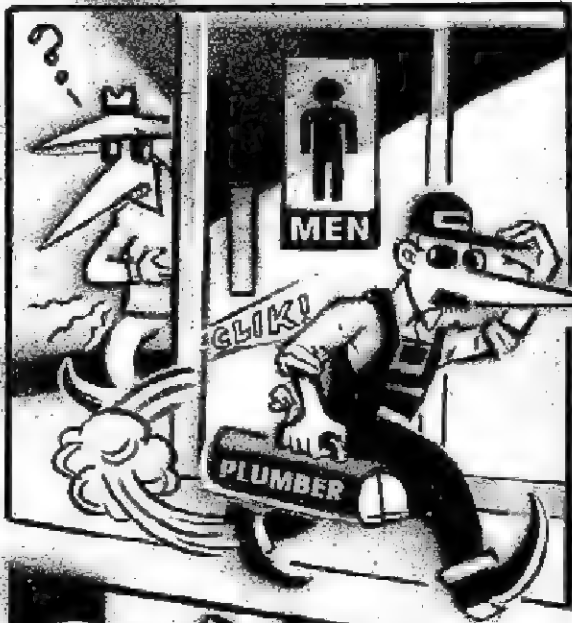
Will educate their audience to the very real results of brutality by having a peppy lizard named "Evac" dance out to hose down all the brains and splatter between screens.



Will go on as many TV shows as they can to discuss how movies, music and videogames have numbed an entire generation of children to the effects of violence. However, they will not explain why these same emotionless automatons who've been brainwashed into having no feeling about violence all seem to be so upset by it.

OF SENSELESS VIOLENCE





THE GUIDES MUST BE CRAZY DEPT.

Oh those hip, trendy, media-savvy emotionally unstable teens of the WB Network! Who doesn't aspire to be more like them? After all, if history has taught us anything, it's that nothing but good can come from mindlessly imitating the actions of whom-ever we see on TV! So, if you want to be the next Dawson, Buffy or Felicity, first, change your name to something really stupid-sounding and then bone up on...

MAD's Eight-Step Guide



- 1** During any argument with a prudish, super-religious grandmother, you **MUST** use the word "penis" at least five times for shock value.



- 2** Make sure to correctly ascertain whether your date is an *actual* vampire or just a "really yucky guy" **BEFORE** impaling him on a two-foot wooden stake.



- 5** When attending a somber occasion, such as a funeral, be thoughtful and show respect — wear a *below-the-crotch-skin-tight* mini-dress that reveals slightly less cleavage than usual.



- 6** When having an affair with a teacher, it is considered bad form to request a higher grade *in addition* to the sex.



3 Out of courtesy for your fellow students, keep your noisemaking to a minimum when using the library stacks area for having sex.



4 Before inviting a pregnant teen or homeless person to stay with the family for the night, check to see how many siblings and/or parents are doing the same – to avoid overcrowding.



7 A simple apology is sufficient after totally messing up your twin sister's life by impersonating her – even if you do it every other week.



8 After losing an election for Student Council and/or Homecoming Queen, be a good sport – don't sic a flesh-eating zombie on the winner.





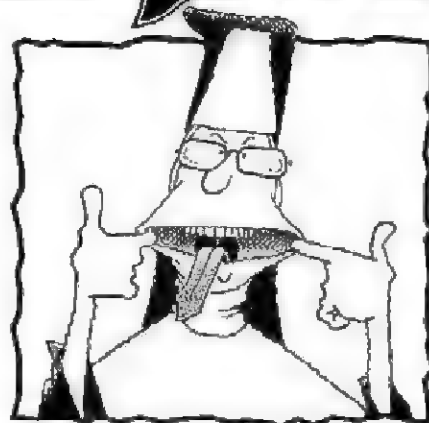
SACRILEGIOUS ORDER DEPT.



Prominently featured in *Playboy's* "Girls of the Novitiate" photo spread

Bless us Father, for we have sinned... mainly, we bought this article! Save a special place in Hell for that blasphemer John Caldwell as he exposes...

When Nuns Go BAD



Controversial class field trips



Every Fourth of July it's the same thing: she shotguns a few cold ones at the church picnic, then tries to organize a wet habit contest



Conducts Mad-Lib vespers



Third grade class spends the entire semester cranking out her own line of sneakers

MAD Copyright © 2008 by E.C. Publications, Inc.



Mid-mass altar diving



Mother Superior by day, but after dark, Mistress Superior

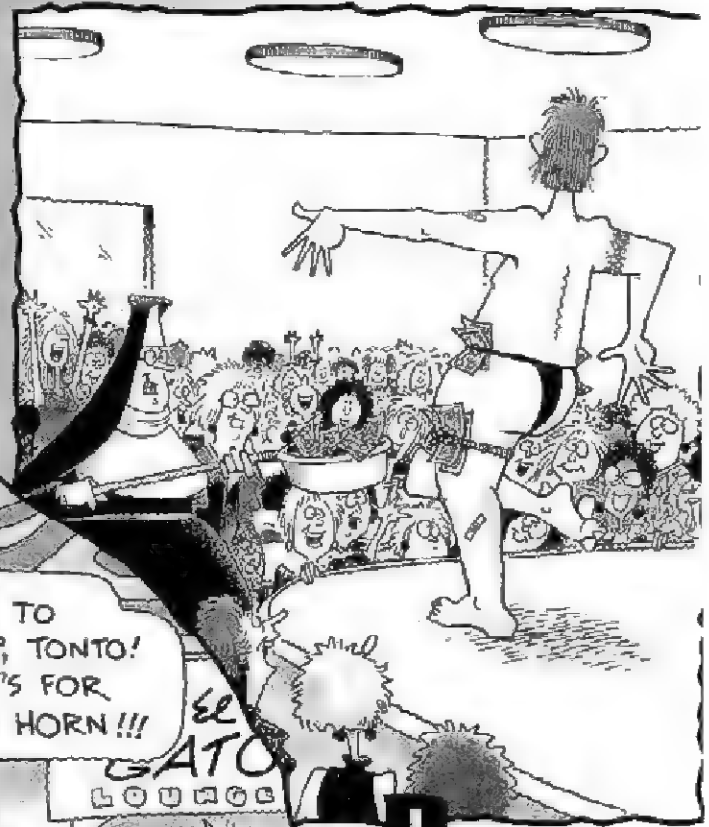
When Nuns Go BAD



Outwardly roots for Notre Dame but actually took the 3 points and bet Oklahoma

HOLD ON TO YOUR SCALP, TONTO! THIS ONE'S FOR LITTLE BIG HORN!!!

CLATTA CLATTA CLACK...



Devotes all free time to working for favorite charity, Chippendale's



COME ON, MR. MULCAHY! YOU CAN MAKE IT TO THURSDAY... COME ON!!!



Hospital volunteer work just an excuse to run a \$5 a square "Last Rites" pool

Her annual "missionary" work with Native Americans always seems to coincide with mysterious poor box shortages



Uses quiet reflective time to hi-lite the hot scenes in the Old Testament

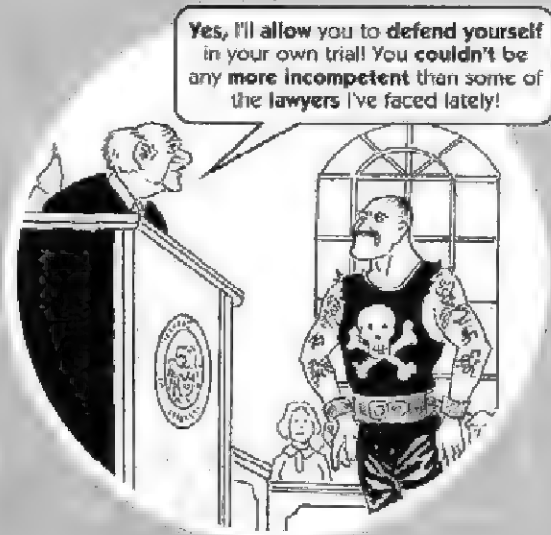


BERG'S-EYE VIEW DEPT.

THE LIGHTER SIDE



JUSTICE



SPORTS

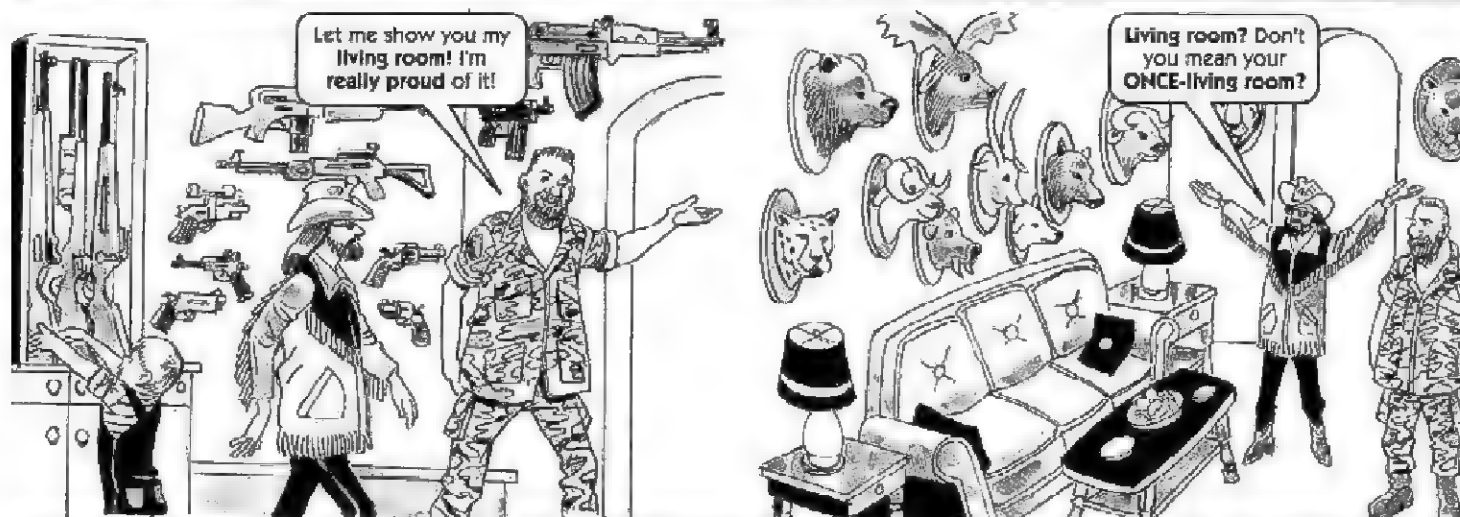
ARTIST AND WRITER: DAVE BERG



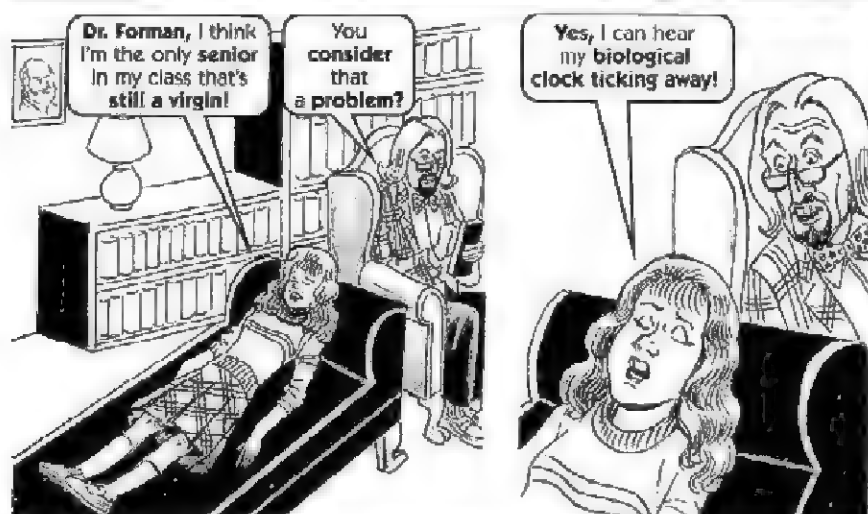
PARENTING



TROPHIES



THERAPY



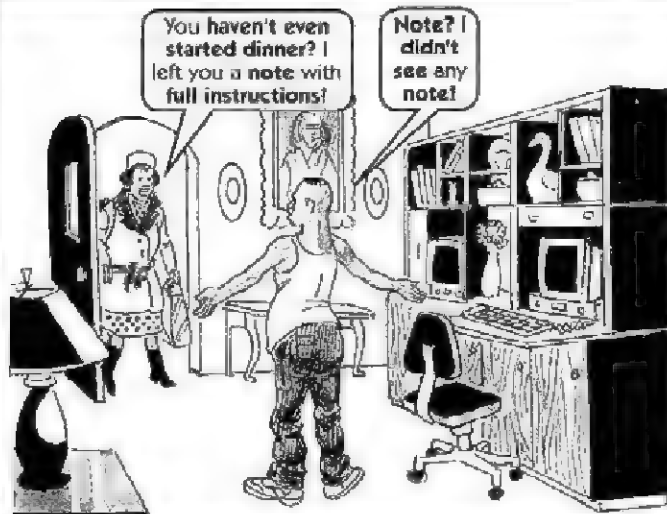
GOOD NEWS



SAFETY



COMMUNICATION



FAST FOOD



PERSONALITY TRAITS



THE OFFICE



BELIEFS



DOCTORS





What do Boyzone, 'N Sync, C*Note, 5ive, 98° and Backstreet Boys have in common?

Well, actually, everything! These dancin' prancin' pin-up pop posers are 100% interchangeable!

Quick Quiz #1: Would anyone notice if Ben from 'N Sync replaced Alfredo from 5ive?
Quick Quiz #2: Does anyone know if there even IS an Alfredo in 5ive?
And Question #3 (the most important of all): How do YOU get in on this gravy train of cash?

Remember, there are hundreds of millions of squealing sixth-grade girls who love these hunks of the month (okay, and a few sixth-grade boys, but let's not get into that right now), and their baby-sitting money has to go somewhere—might as well be your pocket! So why not make a couple o'millon by letting MAD show you...

HOW TO BECOME A BIG-TIME BOY BAND PRODUCER!



LESSON 1

NAME THAT NAME

Each member of the band needs a short, punchy first name. Two syllables is sometimes okay, but one is much, much better. Remember the mental capacity of your audience.

Good Names include:

Mick Lance
Hank Chip
Ferry Theo

Bad Names include:

Alouicious Skeezi
Xerxes Hieronymus
Chiang-Tse Hecky
Lumpy

BONUS TIP:



It's always extra cool if two of the guys share the SAME name. Fans will differentiate them by a last initial, such as Rick T. and Rick G. Plus, only having to remember four first names instead of five will ease the pressure on your fans' brains!

LESSON 2

DIVIDE AND CONQUER

Although boy bands have five guys apiece, there are many more than five different types of personalities to choose from. There are seven:



"TEEN DREAM"



"SASSY REBEL"



"QUIET SHRINKING VIOLET"



"DANGEROUS TROUBLEMAKER"



"MACHO MAN"



"OLDER BROTHER"



"DEWY-EYED YOUTH"

Whatever you do, don't select a boy with a personality that doesn't fit in. "Psychotic Loner," "Flatulent Oktoberfester," "Illegal Immigrant" or "Triple Amputee" may be fresher characters, but trust us, no 12-year-old girl is going to put their poster on her ceiling where it can leer down at her! Stick to the classic archetypes. Uniqueness kills.

No one boy should be the "star" of the group. Your band should look as if it's just five cool guys hanging out, with no one dude any cooler than the other four. That way, girl fans will see them as "approachable." But more importantly, if one of the pretty boys ever gets out of line, you can pink-slip his replaceable ass.

Another big advantage to breaking up the duties into five equal parts is that five singers only have to handle one line at a time. This lets you keep really dumb guys in the band even if they can't remember too many words at once, as long as they look great in tight pants.



LESSON 3

DEVELOPING YOUR REPERTOIRE

See if you can tell what these **ACTUAL** beefy-hopper song titles have in common:

- Tearin' Up My Heart.
- True To Your Heart.
- I'll Never Break Your Heart.
- Quit Playing Games with My Heart

Heyyy, good catch, Beethoven! Your soon-to-be fans are tremendously interested in cardiovascular love. Very, very few hit ballads have been written about lungs. Look at the song titles on hit albums by BSB, 'N Sync, 5ive and the rest. It's Boy Band Law that each album has 12 song titles, and that these 12 titles must include **three "Heart"s**, **four "Love"s**, **two "Girl"s**, **two "All"s** and an **"Everybody"** or an **"Everything."** Whatever titles are left over should be **"We'll Be Together Forever,"** or **"Heaven is Forever,"** or **"Forever Together,"** or some syrupy slop like that. Be sure to throw in parentheses on at least one title to sound impressive.

Just fill in the middle with "yeah"s and "ooh"s and "ooh yeah"s. It's a little-noticed fact that there are only 50 or 60 words in all the lyrics on a boy band album, combined!

But whichever twelve songs **YOU** end up using, it's got to **come from the soul!** Tell the boys to close their eyes, imagine they're opening their hearts, squeeze out all the special feelings they have inside...and then **crank out whatever words written by music company hacks-for-hire** that you tell them to sing. Recording studios charge by the hour, you know!



The single best title a boy band could ever have is this. A song with this title would top the charts for 6 months...except sadly, there is no possible singable melody.

BONUS TIP:



The title "Together (Forever)" isn't taken...yet.

LESSON 4

INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPIONS

Before hitting big in the USA, top boy bands need to be huge in other countries. Why?

American teenage girls like to think of themselves as **complicated rebels**...before they go out and buy the exact same stuff everybody else has! The dopes who listen to this kind of junk need a clear signal that your music is what they want to hear. And goodness knows you can't count on how it sounds to accomplish that!

Play up the "global smash" angle. For instance, before they ever infected the U.S., the Backstreet Boys were big in Germany, and 'N Sync had early hits in England. Be sure to let America's young'uns know that the rest of the world just loves your boys to pieces.

Unfortunately, the rest of the world probably doesn't give a camel's ass whether they live or die. So you'll have to lie. Claim that they're already top superstars in **Tonga, Equatorial Guinea, Azerbaijan, etc.** Or make up fake country names such as **"Middle Cannolia," "The Duchy of Beckles," "Costa Frascarr"** or **"The Republic of Gzxltpwg."** By the time anyone exposes your fraud, your band will have already had its four hits and be done. Remember, in boy bands, it's here today, gone later today.



LESSON 5

THE PUBLICITY GAME

The key to any successful band is to promote, promote, **PROMOTE!** Sounds rough, right? Don't worry, you only need to know two basic strategies...

STRATEGY ONE

Continuously talk over each other's sentences. This causes such confusion that no one can be offended by any statement.

STRATEGY TWO

While one singer discusses how "there's a lot more hard work to this job than most people realize," the other four should stare at him seriously while nodding, as if he's announcing the cure for AIDS.

Fans like to feel a connection to their idols. So only tell them what they want to hear! Even if your boy banders only use the computer to download hot Asian porn, they should say that they love all the fan websites, and even check in every so often. If one of the members has a soundproof bedroom so no one can hear his victims' cries for help, he should say that he just likes "spending a quiet night with that special someone." If he's so whacked out on heroin that he wakes up facedown in crusty vomit, he should say that his pet's name is Scooter, and that his favorite movie is *Titanic*.

BONUS TIP:



Of course, sometimes fans make that extra effort. For those exciting "up close and personal" stairwell encounters that last five minutes, it's always a classy, gentlemanly touch to tell the skank she's "special." Band members should claim that she's the inspiration for a song on the next album and the part where they go, "Yeah, yeah, woo yeah" is for her.



LESSON 6

CAREFULLY NUDGE THE ENVELOPE

The critics gripe that boy bands are formulaic. But when you take five theoretically talented young men, put them in identical outfits, and drill them like army rats at West Point, the sparks have GOT to fly.

To fulfill one's potential as a performer, they gotta stay in touch with their spontaneous side.

Exactly 43 minutes into your Friday night stage show, one member might yell, "Let me hear you scream, Miami!" But the next night, he should feel totally free to change this to "Let me hear you scream, Orlando!" At the 43 minute mark, of course; let's not go completely nuts. But that sort of freewheeling improvisation is what makes or breaks a live performance.

Speaking of which, onstage banter is a crucial way to interact with your young fan base. And the "grabbers" you shout in-between songs may decide whether your band is just a flash in the pan, or whether it can last the whole eight months of superstardom.

BONUS TIP:



NEVER be afraid to let your boys grow as artists. Just because the blond guy is second-from-the-right in the video, there's no reason why you can't put him second-to-the-LEFT when they're on stage! True inspiration should never be shackled.



LESSON 7

IT'S THE STYLING GEL, STUPID

Directing music videos is easy, because there are only two types of shots. The ones showing all five guys dancing and posing, and the close-ups of each member pretending to feel emotion. Here's a handy guide to the poses you'll need to put in every one of your videos:



Squatting In A Deep Knee Bend
(AKA The "Taking A Dump In The Woods" Pose)



Holding Both Fists Up Next To Your Face While You Scrunch Up Your Face
(AKA The "Which Hand Has The M&M?" Pose)



All Five Boys In A Circle. Three Stand Still While The Other Two Switch Positions
(AKA The "Red Rover, Red Rover, We Call Jordan Over" Pose)



Straddling A Chair Backwards
(AKA The "So I Like Rubbing Against Chairs, Is That So Wrong?" Pose)



The "Leaning Over And Making A Face Into The Camera" Pose.
(NOTE: This one is great for conveying a totally wild sense of humor. After all, what could be funnier than getting too close to a camera lens? Har har! Priceless!)



The "Sadly Turned Away From The Camera" Pose
(NOTE: This one conveys tremendous emotional impact — and is great for when one of the boys has a juicy zit on one cheek the day of filming)



The "All Five Guys Looking Down At The Camera" Pose



The "All Five Guys Looking Up At The Camera" Pose

BONUS TIP:



For your cheap concert videos, have several shots of all the girls in the audience choking for air with tears streaming down their faces by pumping onion tunes into the crowd! Run sewage under the seats also gets those simuses bowing!

LESSON 8

EVERYTHING IS FOR SALE

You know when boy bands appear on TV and say "it's all about the music"? That's a load of Backstreet Bullcrap! Most bands don't make squat on the music. It's all about the merchandising, baby! Your potential for sweet, sweet profit is limited only by your imagination and inconvenient sense of morality!

Posters! T-shirts! Videotapes! Stickers! Why do you think the boys make sixteen clothes changes per music video? Because every shirt, cap and medallion is in the catalog! (And you can charge \$9.95 for the catalog.) After all, who WOULDN'T want to own a replica of the windbreaker that Howie wears for eleven seconds in the *Don't Stop the Love* video?



LESSON 9

IT'S SO HARD TO SAY GOODBYE TO YESTERDAY

And when the act goes sour, schedule a "concert tour" to a certain country with non-policed organ donor laws. You can get a lot more cash than you might suspect for five healthy livers and ten kidneys...

BONUS TIP:



...Just make sure the boys' plane tickets are one-way.



WHOLE LOTTO LOVE DEPT.

It goes like this: First, a state Lotto Jackpot begins to swell and Lotto Fever spreads among regular players like an STD at a Turkish bath! The jackpot grows, and soon, even members of the Dom Perignon set are trying to decide which combination of their children's birthdays are "lucky"! Finally, the media catch hold of the story and feed us the same lame-ass reports they did LAST TIME the jackpot went up! If your state sponsors a game of chance, then odds are you've seen each of the...

9 SIGNS LOTTERY

Wow - 4.5 million a year for the next twenty years! That'd be a pay cut for you, huh, Chuck? Ha-ha!

Yeah, ha-ha. \$@!# you, bitch!



You hear roughly 2.7 "happy talk" jokes per newscast about how the senior anchorperson's salary is so huge, he doesn't need to play Powerball!

...so as you can see, you have a better chance of being eaten alive by a shark, getting hit by lightning or killed in a plane crash than winning the jackpot!



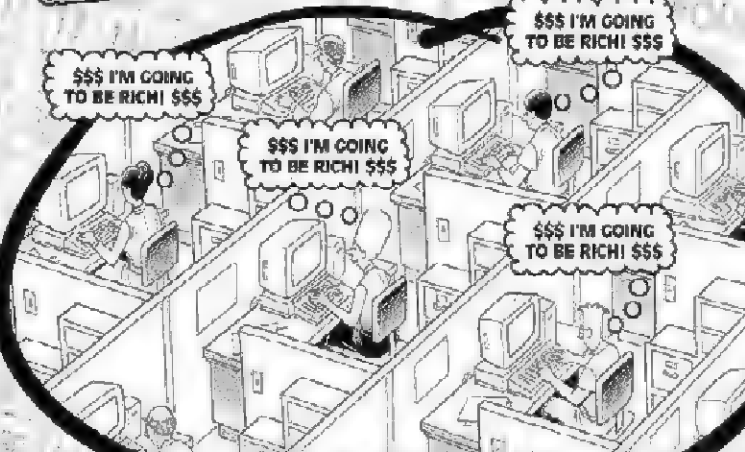
The local news runs the same stupid interview with the same bonthead math professor with the same list of "10 things more likely than winning the lottery!"

\$\$\$ I'M GOING TO BE RICH! \$\$\$

\$\$\$ I'M GOING TO BE RICH! \$\$\$

\$\$\$ I'M GOING TO BE RICH! \$\$\$

\$\$\$ I'M GOING TO BE RICH! \$\$\$



You're in a huge office pool whose members haven't figured out that their individual shares of the grand prize jackpot would amount to roughly \$127 a year!

C'mon you @#!\$! Let's get a move on! Somebody else could be buying MY winning ticket right now!

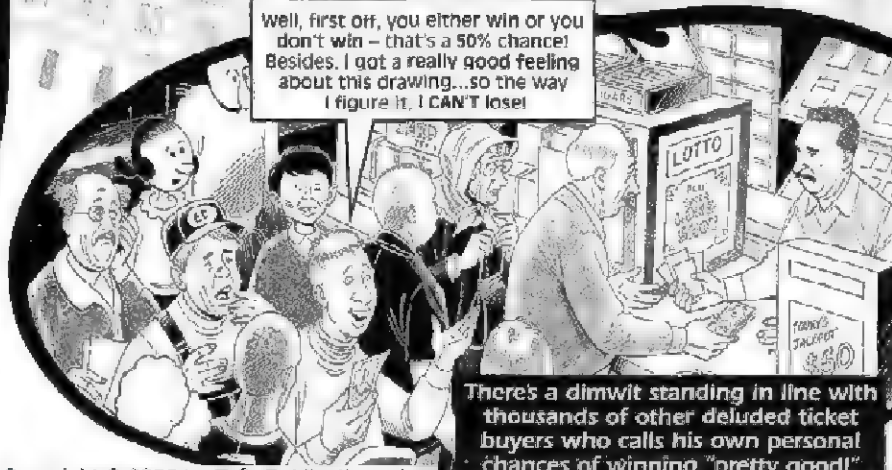
I don't care HOW bad you have to go - we ain't stoppin'! You kids wanna get rich or not?!



ARIZONA BORDER
NEXT LOTTO MACHINE
52 MILES

People from states without the lottery will drive for hours and cause horrendous traffic jams just for that one-in-a-zillion chance!

Well, first off, you either win or you don't win - that's a 50% chance! Besides, I got a really good feeling about this drawing...so the way I figure it, I CAN'T lose!



There's a dimwit standing in line with thousands of other deluded ticket buyers who calls his own personal chances of winning "pretty good!"

FEVER HAS SPREAD TO YOUR TOWN

ARTIST: RALPH REESE

WRITER: MIKE SNIDER

...more on the continued bombing in Iraq in a moment, but first, here's Tom Hilbink! Whoa, Tom, have you already won that Lotto jackpot?

Ha-ha! Not yet, skip, but if I had, look at what I could get...

The last time I was in a Lotto line like this I got strep and was in bed for a week! But I was only three numbers off from winning! It was awesome!

Everywhere you go there's a brain-dead dweeb insisting that waiting in line for hours in the cold and rain is a fun experience!

There's a three-minute report by the oddball feature reporter detailing all you could buy if you actually won the lottery!

I'm telling you, you get so much more in the long run with lump sum!

Dude, annual payments are much - hey, isn't that guy stealing your kid?

Whatever! This is important! I gotta decide whether to pick lump sum or not!

Oh sure, that extra two or three million would come in handy, but give up my career? Never!

You can't help but overhear heated debates over the burning issue of lump sum vs. 20 yearly payments!

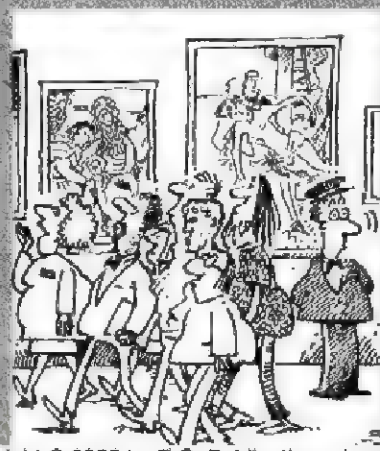
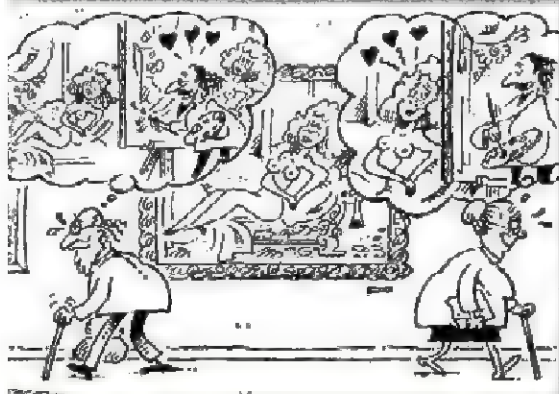
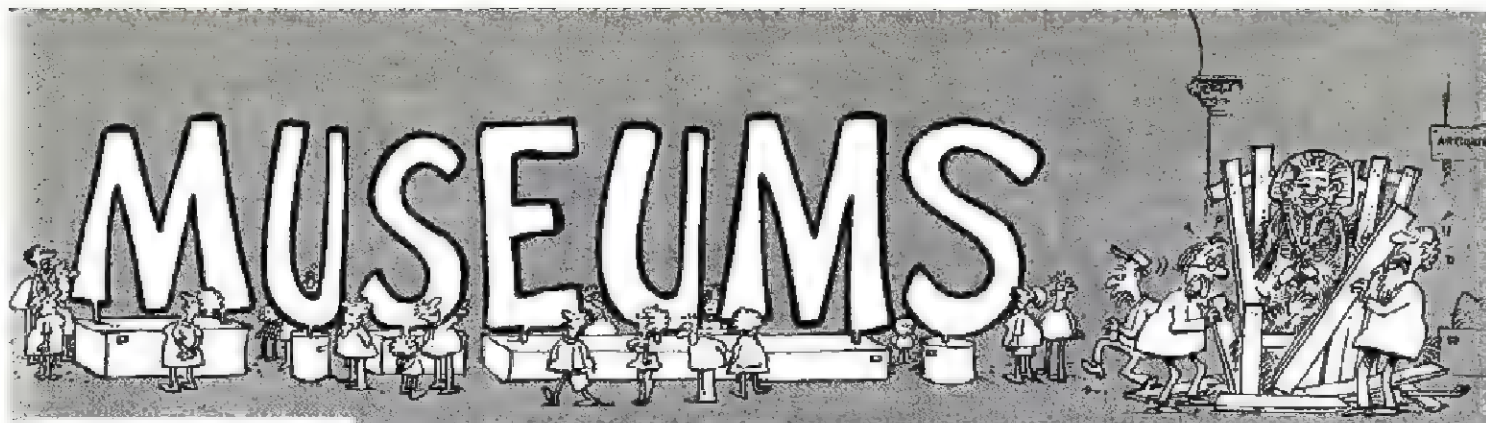
Dozens of players — all lying through their teeth — swear they'd keep the stupid job they have now if they won!

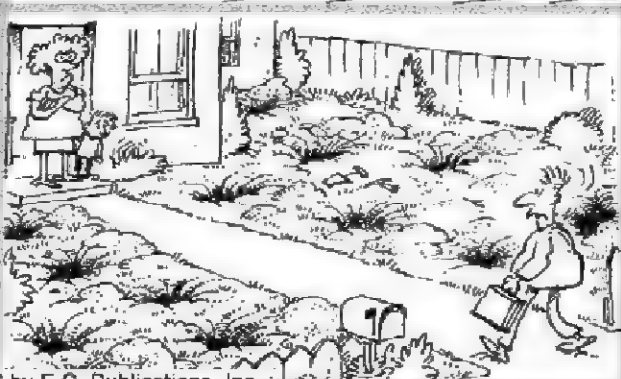
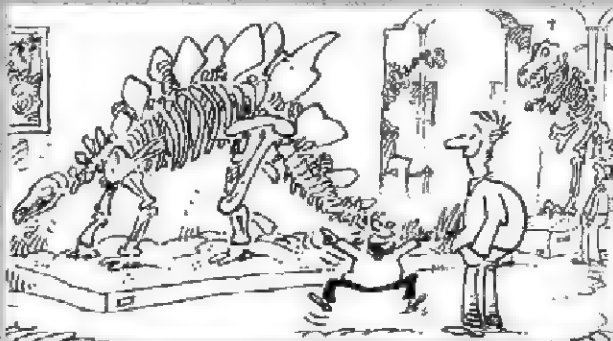
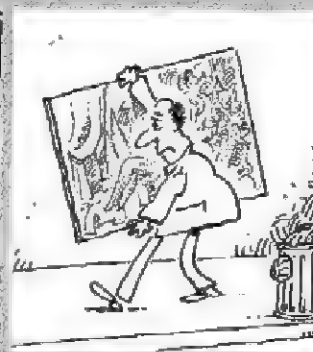
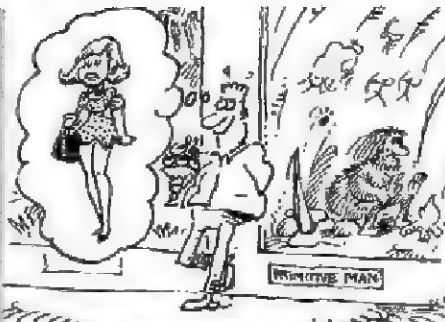
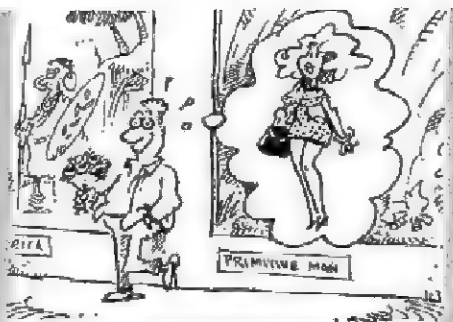


SERGE-IN GENERAL DEPT.

A MAD LOOK AT









Hey kids, here's an exciting new game! Just read over the examples below and see how long it takes you to...

SPOT YOUR PARENTS!

This Issue...

HOW YOUR PARENTS REACTED WHEN YOU ASKED ABOUT SEX FOR THE FIRST TIME



OBVIOUS

Where do babies come from? From the womb! Duh!



EVASIVE

Gee, I've been waiting for you to ask that question, and I wondered how I would handle it! Oh well, I'm off to the hardware store! Bye!



MADDENESQUE

So the sperm cell enters the egg, and BOOM...!



BITTER

Why don't you go ask your no-good, philandering father or one of his bimbos!



MIXED-UP

You see, Billy, when a man loves a stork very, very much...



POOR EXAMPLE

I think this Michael Douglas movie should explain it all for you!

When *Ellen* was cancelled in 1998, did you say to yourself, "Gee, I wish there were ANOTHER sitcom that's totally indistinguishable from all the other cookie-cutter half-hour comedies on the major networks except for the lone fact that it features a gay main character whose name is also in the title"? You did? Then your wish has been answered by...

I'm Wit! Trauma! Since so few people watch our show, we need to introduce ourselves! I'm bright, I'm fun, I'm charming! And I have something that makes me a social outcast in today's society...I'm a lawyer! Oh, I also happen to be gay! The phrase "legal briefs" comes up much too frequently in these episodes!

I'm Craze! I live with Wilt! We have this cozy little dysfunctional arrangement! I'm straight! He's gay! I've traded in sex and excitement for Merlot and witty little *Advocate* references! We have tons of mutual interests! We both watch *The View* on TV, we take the *Cosmo* quiz and we love to rent chick flicks – like *My Best Friend's Wedding*, the premise of which we borrowed from to create this series! Unfortunately, we only borrowed the premise and not the charm or humor!

I'm Crabbin! Craze's assistant at her design studio! A job similar in importance to being Andre Agassi's hair stylist! I'm incredibly wealthy! I don't have to work for a living but in this series I do! My character: an outspoken, crude, rude rich bitch! Sort of trailer trash with a trust fund! How do you like me so far? Who freakin' cares?! I have nails to do! Move on to the next dialogue balloon!

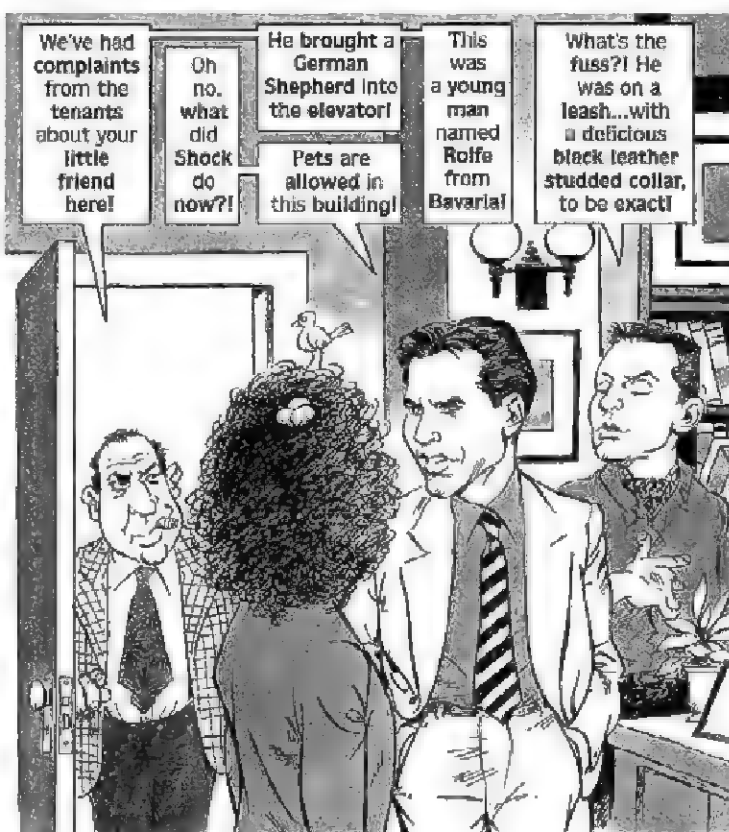
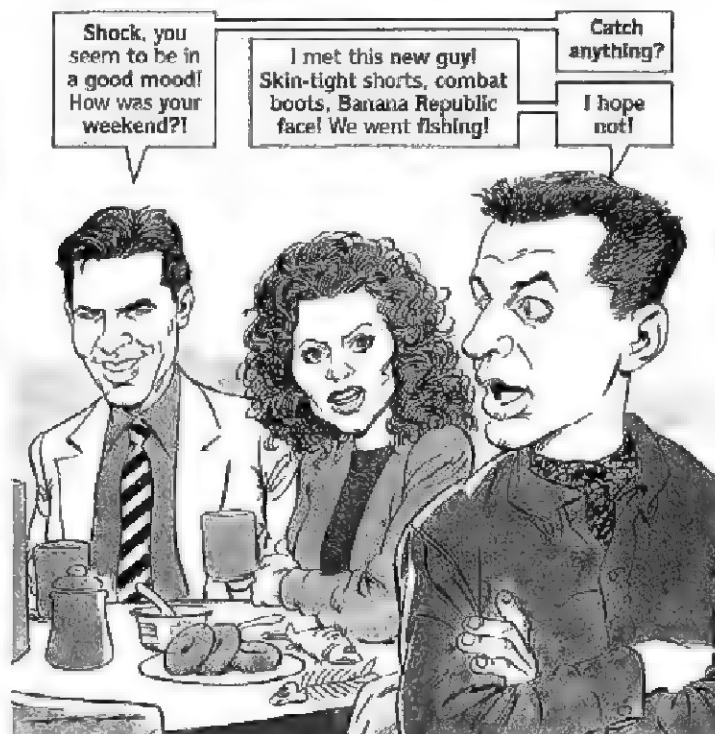
Hil NBC's pre-show promo press release on this show was, "We neither hide nor make a special issue of the gay content." Really?! Then how do you explain ME!? I'm Shock! I'm gayer than a fruitcake in a Key West bakery during Bette Midler Festival Week! My likes: muffin baskets, group hugs, dancing the Salsa naked and men in Speedos! Duh! Wilt and I are just good friends! I haven't "been there, done him" but we do have our special song: "You Are The Wind Bonaparte My Bantle!"

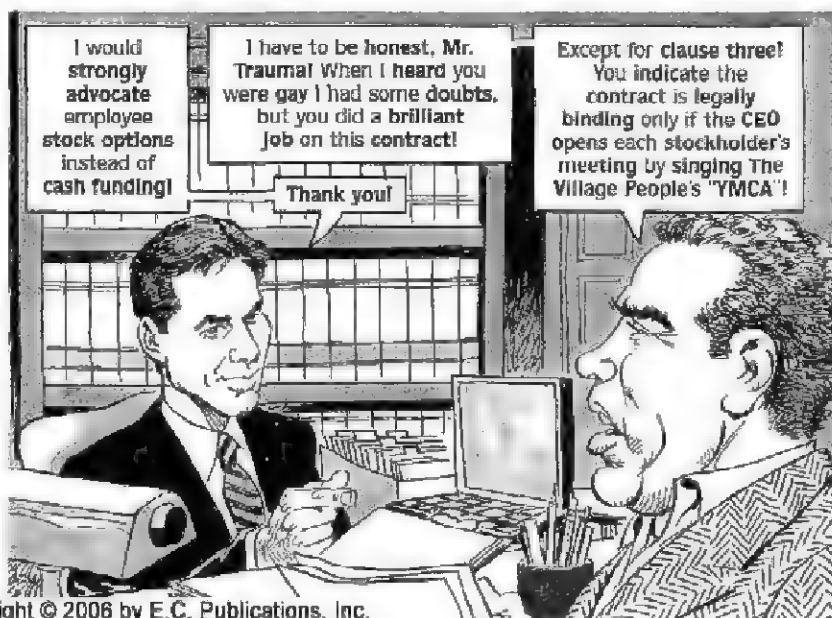
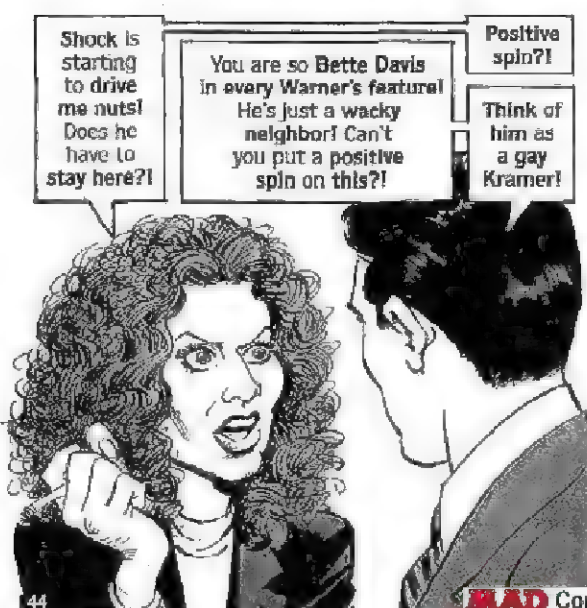
I'm Harrison Ford! I have nothing whatsoever to do with this show! I just thought some of you would like to see what a real man looks like!

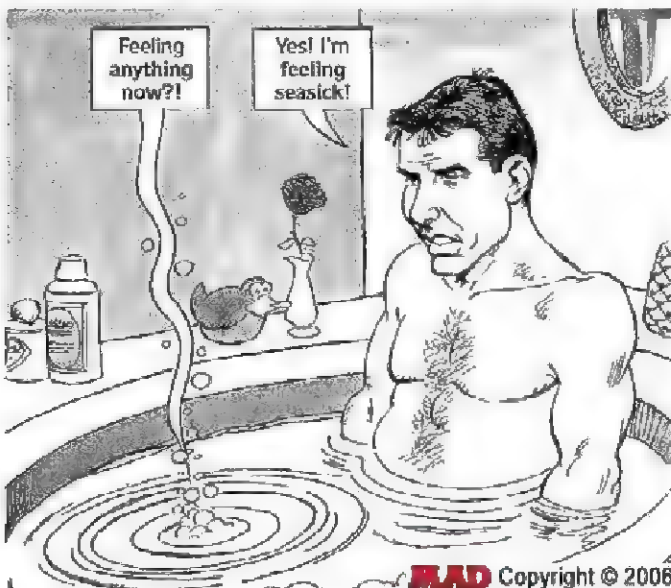
WILT & CRAZE

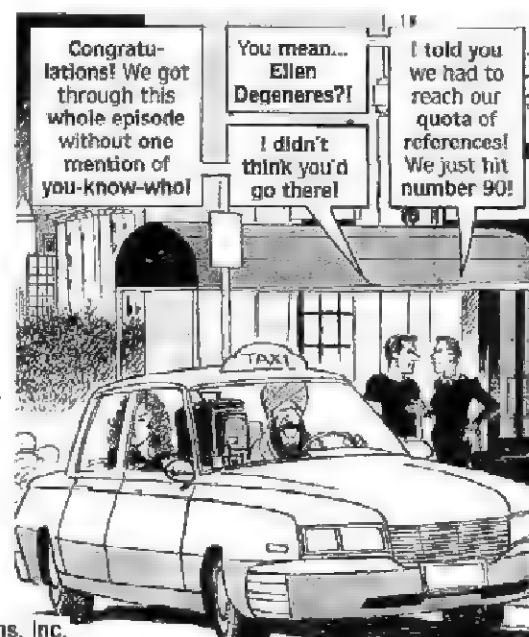
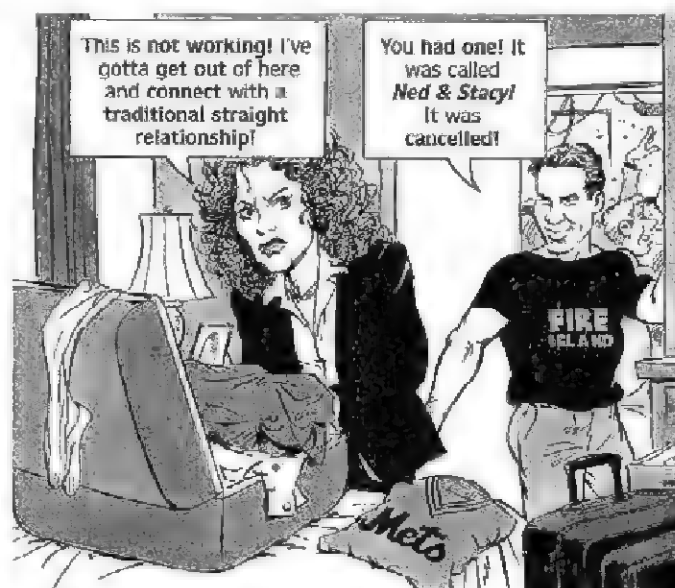
ARTIST: ANGELO TORRES

WRITER: JOSH GORDON











CARTOON CHARACTER ASSASSINATION DEPT.

THE VOTE IS IN!

In MAD #386 we asked you, our extremely moronic (and sadistic) readers, to choose one of six highly unpleasant methods by which the Pokémon pictured here was to meet its well-deserved demise. The response was disturbingly overwhelming! Nearly 30,000 of you voted, which, interestingly enough, is more people than are expected to participate in the upcoming Presidential election! And so, we are perversely pleased and honored to carry out your wishes for its execution!

THE EXECUTION OF PIKACHU POLL RESULTS



AND THE WINNER, WITH 36% OF THE VOTE, IS

THE DYNAMITE SCHTICK!



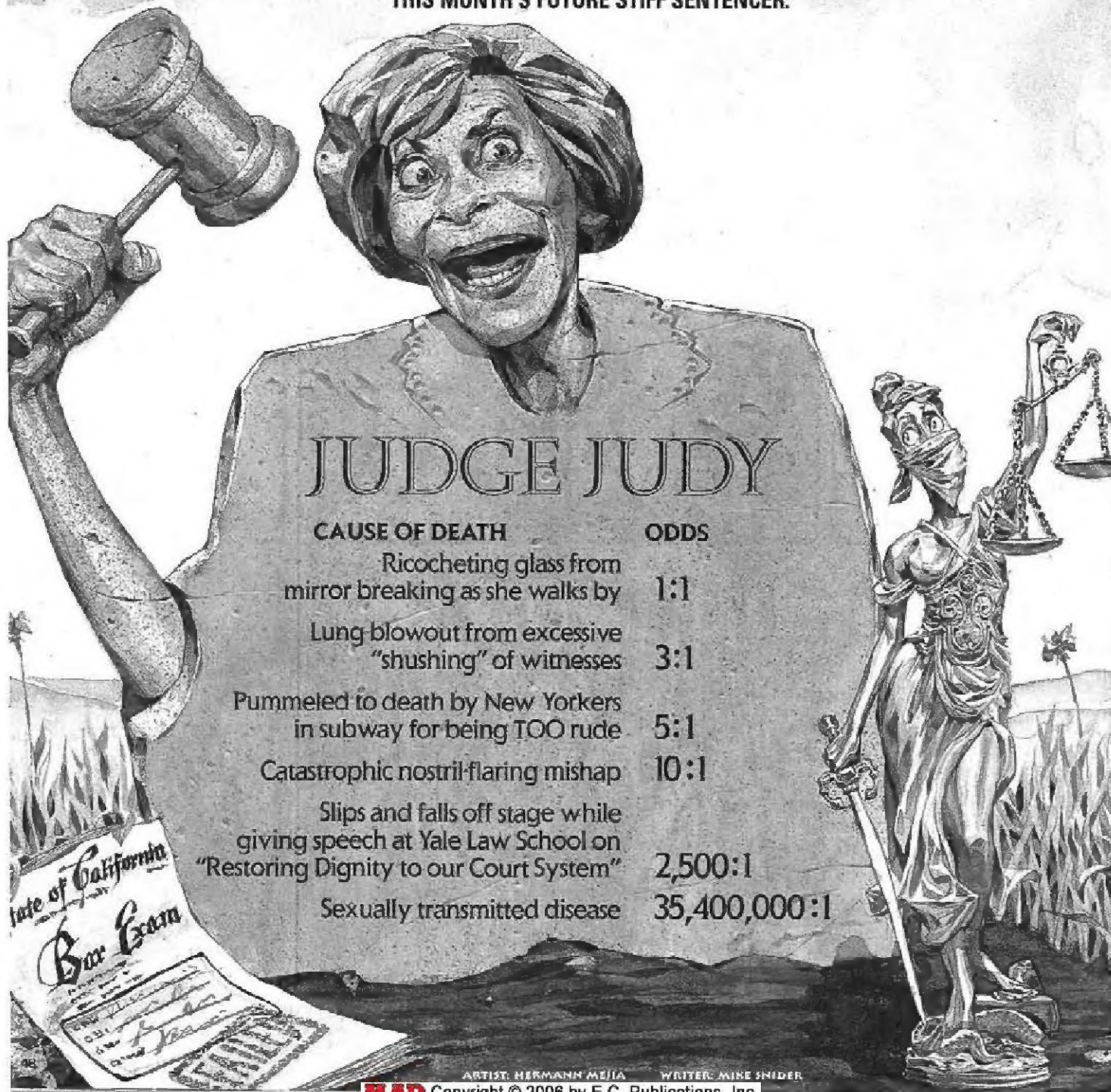


GRIEVING LAS VEGAS DEPT.

MAD's CELEBRITY CAUSE-OF-DEATH BETTING ODDS

Our team of crack oddsmakers gives you the latest Vegas line on how one of today's biggest stars is going to be subpoenaed by the grim reaper!

THIS MONTH'S FUTURE STIFF SENTENCER:



JUDGE JUDY

CAUSE OF DEATH

ODDS

Ricocheting glass from mirror breaking as she walks by

1:1

Lung blowout from excessive "shushing" of witnesses

3:1

Pummeled to death by New Yorkers in subway for being TOO rude

5:1

Catastrophic nostril-flaring mishap

10:1

Slips and falls off stage while giving speech at Yale Law School on "Restoring Dignity to our Court System"

2,500:1

Sexually transmitted disease

35,400,000:1

ARTIST: HERMANN MEJIA

WRITER: MIKE SNIDER

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**WHAT'S THE MOST
OFFENSIVE THING
YOU CAN SEE ON
DISPLAY AT A
MUSEUM?**

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS **MAD FOLD-IN**

There seems to be no limit to disgusting ideas in the art world. What is great art to some is truly offensive to others. To find out what a truly revolting example of this is, fold page in as shown.



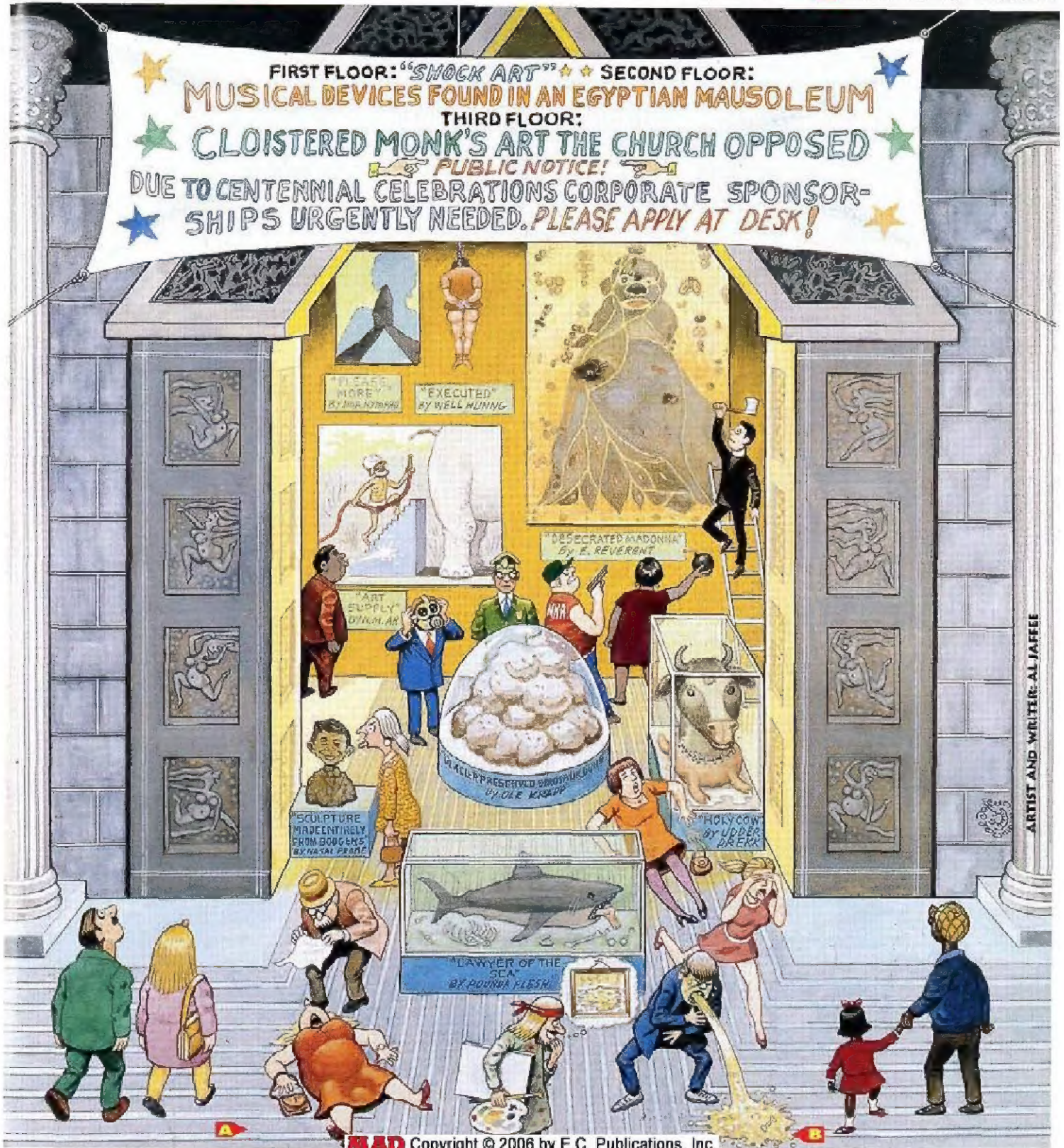
FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!



FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT



FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



ARTIST AND WRITER: AL JAFFEE

More Candy Hearts for Modern Lovers



PHOTOGRAPHER: IRVING SCHILD

WRITER: BARRY LIEBMANN